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Statement of Support for AG Healey, signed by 20 Massachusetts Mayors

As mayors from across Massachusetts, the safety and well-being of our residents and neighborhoods is our top priority. In the wake of the mass shooting at Orlando's Pulse nightclub and incidents of violence against civilians and law enforcement in cities across the country, our positions demand that we speak out. We have called again and again for national solutions to gun violence, to increase mental health funding, and to end the sale of military-style weapons to civilians, because our cities are not war zones. But we are as frustrated as our neighbors with inaction and empty words. Much more is demanded of those empowered to address any part of this crisis.

For this reason, we have come together to express our strong support for Attorney General Maura Healey's recently announced effort to enforce the state's ban on the sale of assault weapons. We back her push to end the sale of copycat assault weapons and to give our residents what the attorney general calls "the full protection" of our state laws.

The Commonwealth has had an assault weapons ban on the books for a long time. But for the law to work, it should be more than words on a page, it should actually ban assault weapons. We know that some residents oppose any restrictions on guns. Many more people, including gun owners, believe that sensible limits make our streets, our schools, our parks, and our workplaces that much safer. We wholeheartedly agree and offer the Attorney General our full support.

Signed by:

Mayor Setti D. Warren, Newton
Mayor Richard Alcombright, North Adams
Mayor Ted Bettencourt, Peabody
Mayor Stephanie Burke, Medford
Mayor Bill Carpenter, Brockton
Mayor Joseph A. Curtatone, Somerville
Mayor Carlo DeMaria, Everett
Mayor Kimberley Driscoll, Salem
Mayor Kevin Dumas, Attleboro
Mayor Scott Galvin, Woburn
Mayor Donna D. Holaday, Newburyport
Mayor Edward J. Kennedy, Lowell
Mayor Jonathan F. Mitchell, New Bedford
Mayor Alex B. Morse, Holyoke
Mayor David J. Narkewicz, Northampton
Mayor Joseph M. Petty, Worcester
Mayor Daniel Rivera, Lawrence
Mayor E. Denise Simmons, Cambridge
Mayor Linda Tyer, Pittsfield
Mayor Martin J. Walsh, Boston